

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Emma Louise Petersen was born on December 31, 1904, to Peter and Caroline Petersen, the youngest of ten children, on a farm near Gann Valley, South Dakota; and,

*Whereas*, Emma graduated from Gann Valley High School in 1924, attended Eastern Normal in Madison, and taught in rural schools in Buffalo County; and,

*Whereas*, Emma was united in marriage to Lester "Les" Lyle Baker in 1930, in Kimball, South Dakota, and to this union three children were born: Betty, DeEtt and James, she has nine grandchildren and seventeen great-grandchildren; and,

*Whereas*, Les and Emma farmed north of Pukwana, Emma helped Les' parents at the Shelby Store, and she taught at the Shelby School; Emma was an active member of the Busy Workers Extension Club, Pukwana Lutheran Church, and the Church Ladies Aide; and,

*Whereas*, After Les' death in 1964, Emma moved to Chamberlain, then moved to Mitchell in 1979, and in 1998, Emma moved to Yankton to live with DeEtt and Ray Willard; and,

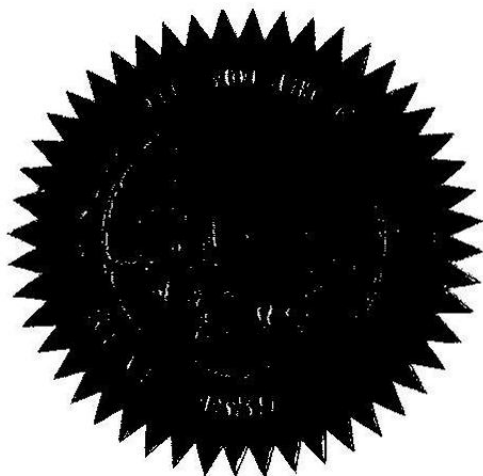
*Whereas*, Emma has traveled with friends throughout the United States, having visited 49 of the 50 states, somehow missing North Carolina, she became active in the Mitchell Senior Center, playing bridge and other cards on an average of three days a week, was a major fundraiser for the center by crocheting and raffling off many afghans, and continues to crochet every day, watches Price is Right and takes well deserved naps; and,

*Whereas*, Emma will celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as her friends and relatives gather on January 1, 2005, to honor her and celebrate her life and the camaraderie of the day; it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a woman has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim December 31, 2004, as

### *EMMA LOUISE BAKER DAY*

in South Dakota, and I join all her many friends and relatives in wishing her a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirteenth Day of December in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

*M. Michael Rounds*  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:  
*Chris Nelson*  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State